06/08/2015

For Immediate Release
June 8, 2015
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Nominations for 2015 Ventura Mayor's Arts Awards due August 14

Nomination forms are available online at www.cityofventura.net/maa until August 14 for the 11th annual Mayor's Arts Awards, which recognize the artistic achievements and contributions to the cultural community by City of Ventura residents in seven categories:

Arts Patron, a business or individual whose strong support of the arts has been ongoing through philanthropic and/or volunteer service

Artist in the Community, an established individual artist in any discipline for artistic excellence and singular efforts in contributing to Ventura's cultural vitality

Creative Entrepreneur, a locally owned for-profit business which exemplifies the impact and vitality of Ventura's creative economy

Arts Leader, a nonprofit arts professional who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, organizational stewardship and partnership within the arts community

Arts Educator, an individual or organization whose achievements and contributions to arts education have been significant and far reaching

Emerging Artist, a working artist under 40 who has demonstrated outstanding promise and commitment to Ventura's arts community (students are ineligible)

Student Artist, an active student artist in any discipline under the age of 19 who has demonstrated outstanding promise and commitment to the arts

A panel of community members representing the arts and business worlds will review applications based on: the significance and magnitude of the nominee's contributions; leadership in the arts community and commitment to service to the arts; benefit and impact of the nominee's contribution to the citizens of the City of Ventura; and potential contribution to the arts in the emerging artist category.

The Mayor will present each recipient a non-monetary award at a reception on November 5, including a limited edition artwork, Mark of Excellence, created by Lis J. Schwitters. This year's awards are being presented as a joint project of the Community Development and the Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships Departments.

For more information contact Georgeanne Lees at glees@cityofventura.net or 805/658.4720.

This release is available online at www.cityofventura.net. --###-